

IN THE CLAIMS:

- Sub E17*
- 21*
- [c1] (Currently amended) A threaded pipe connection comprising:  
a pin member having external threads increasing in width in one direction;  
a box member having internal threads increasing in width in an opposite ~~the other~~  
direction so that complementary internal and external threads move into  
engagement upon make-up of the connection; and  
a wear indicator for the connection disposed on at least one of the group consisting  
of a shoulder of the box member, and a shoulder of the pin member.
- [c2] (Original) The threaded pipe connection of claim 1 wherein the wear indicator is  
disposed on the pin member.
- [c3] (Original) The threaded pipe connection of claim 1 wherein the wear indicator is  
disposed on the box member.
- [c4] (Original) The threaded pipe connection of claim 1 wherein the pin member has an  
external shoulder and the wear indicator is disposed on the external shoulder.
- [c5] (Original) The threaded pipe connection of claim 1 wherein the box member has  
an external shoulder and the wear indicator is disposed on the external shoulder.
- [c6] (Original) The threaded pipe connection of claim 1 wherein the pin member has an  
internal shoulder and the wear indicator is disposed on the internal shoulder.
- [c7] (Original) The threaded pipe connection of claim 1 wherein the box member has  
an internal shoulder and the wear indicator is disposed on the internal shoulder.
- [c8] (Original) The threaded connection of claim 1 wherein:  
the pin member has an external shoulder;

the box member has an external shoulder; and  
the wear indicator is disposed on the external shoulder of the pin member and the  
external shoulder of the box member.

[c9] (Original) The threaded connection of claim 1 wherein:

the pin member has an internal shoulder;  
the box member has an internal shoulder; and  
the wear indicator is disposed on the internal shoulder of the pin member and the  
internal shoulder of the box member.

[c10] (Currently amended) A method of indicating connection wear comprising:

providing a pin member having external threads increasing in width in one  
direction;

providing a box member having internal threads increasing in width in an opposite  
~~the other~~ direction so that the complementary internal and external threads  
move into engagement upon make-up of the connection;

providing a wear indicator for the connection disposed on at least one of the group  
consisting of a shoulder of the box member, and a shoulder of the pin  
member; and

rotationally engaging the pin member and the box member.

[c11] (Original) The method of claim 10 further comprising:

disposing the wear indicator on the pin member.

[c12] (Original) The method of claim 10 further comprising:

disposing the wear indicator on the box member.

[c13] (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the pin member has an external  
shoulder, the method-further comprising:

disposing the wear indicator on the external shoulder of the pin member.

[c14] (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the box member has an external shoulder, the method further comprising:

disposing the wear indicator on the external shoulder of the box member.

[c15] (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the pin member has an internal shoulder, the method further comprising:

disposing the wear indicator on the internal shoulder of the pin member.

11 [c16] (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the box member has an internal shoulder, the method further comprising:

disposing the wear indicator on the internal shoulder of the box member.

[c17] (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the pin member has an external shoulder and the box member has an external shoulder, the method further comprising:

disposing the wear indicator on at least one of the external shoulder of the pin member and the external shoulder of the box member.

[c18] (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the pin member has an internal shoulder and the box member has an internal shoulder, the method further comprising:

disposing the wear indicator on at least one of the internal shoulder of the pin member and the internal shoulder of the box member.

[c19] (Currently amended) A threaded pipe connection comprising:  
a pin member having external threads increasing in one direction;

a<sup>1</sup>  
a box member having internal threads increasing in an opposite ~~the other~~ direction  
so that complementary internal and external threads move into engagement  
upon make-up of the connection; and  
means for indicating connection wear.

Sub 17  
a<sup>2</sup>  
[c20] (New) The threaded pipe connection of claim 1, wherein wear indicator comprises  
a circumferential extension.